G. R. S. IX-5]

Previous references.

File No. 28 21.

192 2. Serial Nos. 142

(Sanitary)

Later references.

Sany 28-21(S 314)
San 28-21(S 46) Bragn
Sani 41-25(S 7)
" 41-25(60-13)
" 95-28(1-5)
" 82-29(1 to 7)
P.H. 62-33 1-8)

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 142

Part B for January 1922

SUBJECT.

Improvement of badly ventilated houses in all the towns of the State.

To The Presidents of Municipalities and Districts Boards.

G.O. No. L3950-60 dt. 10.1.22

for necessary action

Forwards copy of the letter No C. 45582-12-21 from the Sanitary Commr. in Mysore proposing an advance of Rs 200/- in the case of smaller municipalities and Rs 600/- in case of bigger ones for the purchase of ready made windows in order to improve badly ventilated houses.

To The Sanitary Commr.

WD 1888—GPB—16,825—23-7-21 No L3941 dt 10-1-22.

Forwards copy of the above.

G. R. S. 11] 1921-22

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

(Sanitary)

NOTES.

File No. 28-21

FILE HEADING.

Improvement of badly ventilated houses in all the towns in the State.

From

The Sanitary Commissioner

No. C 455 Dated 2. 12. 21 Received 2. 12. 21

Diary No. 3179	Enclos.	Spare Copies.	Serial No. 1

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

Requests to authorise local bodies to draw an advance out of their funds of a sum not exceeding Rs 200/- in the case of the smaller Municipalities & Rs 400/- in the case of larger ones, for the purchase of ready-made windows in order to improve badly ventilated houses

NOTES AND ORDERS.

Difficulty may arise in recovering the cost of the windows supplied to the people by the Municipality.

Submitted for orders.

6.12.21

The scheme appears to be a laudable one. Before passing final orders, the

NOTES—First Sheet.

3179

(2

Serial No.

Municipal Councils might, with advantage, be consulted.

Rev. Secy.) 8/12/21.

3) Local bodies have already been authorized to incur certain expenditure in arresting influenza & other epidemics. Similarly they may be authorized to draw small advances for purchasing & supplying windows to needy persons & ~~recover~~ adjusting the same quickly. Correspondence with the Local Bodies may entail delay.

3rd member) 9/12

3287 9.12.21

4) The Collr. of the Secretary Concern may be invited and sent to the Residents & Municipalities & District Boards for necessary action. I do not think that any assessment is to be made to authorise them to collect in advance. They can easily arrange to have with their members & windows agreed.

14/12

17/12

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

(3

G. R. S. III-2]

General and Revenue Secretariat.

Sani File No. 28 of 1922.

3178

Serial No.

2 To the President of Municipal Board

Memo no 3950-60 dt 10.1.22

Forwards the letter from the Sanitary Commissioner for necessary action.

Subd. If appd, a copy of the memo & its enclosure will be sent to Sanitary Commissioner for information.

J/801 6/yes

6.2.22

Sub Sanitary Commissioner in Kipawa

6/2 Memo no L 4505 dt 8.2.22.

Forwards copy of the above for information

Dowo. C 4552-2 dt 6-2-22 fr Secy Govt.

Requests early orders re authorising the Municipal Councils to advance amounts for the purchase of ready made Windows.

Subds for orders with refce to para 4 above

J/801 A copy has already been sent to the San. Commr. No further action appears called for.

8/2/22

Sub

8/2

V Rev Secy

8/2/22

6/2

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

X Revenue Secretary

Y/ Rev. Secy's order on the Do L. Boards, Refg

Intd. CV. 7/2/22

X. Remarks detached

H:602

3179

G.R.S. III—3]

Routine Notes.

[To be used only for notes, requisitions, etc., not intended for permanent record.]

III wanted order on lay file
No 28 – 21

"The letter of the Sanitary Comr may be printed & sent to the Presidents of Municipalities & Dt Boards for necessary action."

Intd M.H.H
12-12-21

If approved the letter may be arranged to be multigraphed. As sending it to press may cause delay

DRA
17/12/21

The letter may be ordered to be multigraphed with the following Memorandum,

Memo No. d.. &

Copy forwarded to the Presidents of Municipalities and District Boards for necessary action

By Order

Rec: Secretary

~~12~~ 5
150 copies

Better to have it printed as a standing Order as follows:—

The accompanying letter No C 455 dated the 2nd December 1921 from the Sanitary Commissioner in Mysore is forwarded, with compliments, to the Presidents of Municipalities & District Boards for necessary action.

N.B.—Should routine notes be written on small slips, the notes must be copied, or slips pasted on this form.

Sub-A Help for orders.

20/12/21

17/12

(5

Department of Public Health in Mysore. Sec 28-21-1

OFFICE OF THE SANITARY COMMISSIONER
WITH THE GOVT. OF MYSORE,

Bangalore, dated the 2 12 *192* 1.

No. C455
Enc.

From

A. K. PANI, ESQ., D.P.H., etc.,
~~Offg.~~ Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of
H.H. the Maharaja of Mysore, BANGALORE.

To

The Secretary to the
Government of His Highness the
Maharaja of Mysore, B A N G A L O R E.
(Revenue Department)

Sir,

I have the honor to bring to the notice of Government a remediable defect most commonly met with in houses in all the towns in the State, which calls for early action. It is to some extent true that in the larger towns at any rate, a distinct improvement has in recent years been perceptible in the type and sanitary conditions of dwellings, as a result of the painful experience induced by the devastating epidemics of plague since its first appearance in 1898. The policy initiated by Government with regard to the abolition of congested areas and the opening out of extensions, certainly largely contributed to this change. But in spite of an improvement in the trend in this direction, the fact remains as true today as it did prior to 1898, that the majority of houses are "unfit for human habitation".

2. Every one is familiar with the type of a common dwelling house in a town. It is usually a low structure practically shut out to external light and air - a veritable box with compartments. In the larger houses all of the interior that meets the eye is the door-way with a long line of dark apartments stretching behind it. I do not

From

THE SANITARY COMMISSIONER IN MYSORE, BANGALORE.

To

Dated

Despatched

Received

General No.

No.

Enclosure No.

SUBJECT.

(6

not propose to touch upon the structural defects and the general insanitary conditions resulting in these houses. I wish only to lay stress on one fundamental defect - absence of light and air.

3. "The importance of fresh air" is a hackneyed expression but I fear its full significance is hardly, if ever, realised. The history of the last pandemic of influenza seems to me to afford in a striking manner proof of the part played by "fresh air" in the causation of disease. As is well-known, the incidence of influenza was relatively less severe in the Bangalore and Mysore Cities and the case-mortality also was lower than in mufussal towns and villages. Other considerations apart, this difference is largely attributable to the very much better conditions of house-ventilation obtaining in these cities. Taking a more recent example, that of Tiptur, there was no reason, why when epidemic influenza was absent from the rest of the State, the town should have suffered severely, accounting for as many as 250 attacks. The bad housing conditions prevalent in this town, with the marked absence of ventilation in the houses, undoubtedly kept up the epidemic. Ill-ventilated houses predisposed to influenza, probably because of the additional opportunities of infection that occur in such places.

4. But influenza is only one of the many diseases that find a ready soil in ill-ventilated houses. Pneumonia, always most fatal in overcrowded and unclean places, tuberculosis in all its forms, a lowered vitality and a lowered resistance to disease are among the other evils that result from want of fresh air. It has been ascertained by experiment that the air of a poor cottage with poor ventilation was able to preserve unchanged the virulence of tuberculous sputum for two or three months at least but the same sputum exposed for less than two days in a well-lighted and well-ventilated house entirely lost the power of communicating the disease to guinea pigs by

(7

by inoculation. Apart from the direct effects of absence of ventilation and light on the life of pathogenic organisms there is no doubt that defective light and air tend to devitalise the occupants of such houses and render them more ready victims of infection.

5. The factors inimical to the health of the adults are equally dangerous to the infant, to the young child and to the child attending schools. Bad housing conditions are thus also responsible for a high infantile mortality.

6. It will be clear that the improvement of badly ventilated houses is a matter calling for early action by all local bodies. It is a duty which is certainly more important than the preservation of cleanliness of streets and the maintenance of external sanitation in the local areas.

7. Government may not be unaware that while I was Health Officer, Mysore City, I arranged to fix over 7,000 windows to ill-ventilated houses in the several parts of the City, in the course of about six months. This was done without any aid by the Municipal Council and without any special funds placed at my disposal. Windows of different sizes were obtained from one of the local contractors and stocked. The Sanitary Inspectors made out a list of the houses that were badly in need of windows. I visited the houses and advised the occupants to have a certain number of windows fixed, offering to give them the windows, subject to adjustment of cost later on. The offer was, as a rule, readily accepted and there was little or no trouble in recovering the amounts for payment to the Contractor. There is no doubt, that this measure is bound to have had an appreciable effect on the general public health of the localities, which can be gauged only after some time. I have already commenced to introduce the above improvement in Bangalore City and expect a large number of windows to be inserted soon under my personal supervision and responsibility.

(8)

8. During my inspections of towns during the last 2½ years, I have been endeavouring to enlist the active consideration of the Municipal Councils in regard to this very important matter. The results so far have been very/ encouraging. The Municipal Councils of Tiptur, Chamarajanagar, Davangere, and Malur have cordially responded and already a number of windows have been secured by the Municipalities of Chamarajanagar and Malur. The measure has also met with public appreciation and a few influential gentlemen have voluntarily come forward with offers to give an advance in the form of loan, to informal working Committees of the Councils, to meet the initial cost of windows. Nevertheless, it is essential for successful work, that the procedure should receive the approval of Government and be placed on a recognised basis.

9. To the possible objection that the owners of houses may legally be required by the Municipal Councils to insert windows to ill-ventilated houses, I may say that no section of the Regulation authorises such procedure. I am insistently bringing to the notice of the Councils the necessity for strictly applying the health clauses of the Municipal Regulation with a view to secure sanitary improvement and have issued detailed practical instructions on the subject. But this matter of inserting windows cannot be dealt with in the same manner, although in importance it far outweighs every other improvement provided for in the Municipal Regulation. Hence the necessity for special action in this matter.

10. With a view to facilitate work, I would recommend that Government may be pleased to authorise local bodies to draw an advance out of their funds of a sum not exceeding Rs 200/- in the case of the smaller Municipalities and Rs 400/- in the case of larger ones, for purchase of ready-made windows. The windows will be issued to persons who are advised to improve ventilation in their houses and the cost will be recovered either in a lumpsum or in two

(9

two or three monthly easy instalments, at the discretion of the Municipal Council. The chief merit of the scheme is that windows will be carried to the very doors of the people, which is a very important consideration. Very often, it is not the apathy of the people that stands in the way of effecting improvements but the lack of practical facilities such as the one now suggested. By the local bodies ordering for a number of windows to be made at a time, the cost is reduced to a minimum and the owners of houses are saved the trouble of procuring the necessary timber, bars and above all, workmen to make the windows.

11. It is hardly necessary to say that the initial advance would just enable the work to be started and may not cover the cost of providing all the ill-ventilated houses in the area with windows. The local bodies may therefore, after recouping the previous advance either partly or fully be empowered to draw fresh advances as frequently as necessary, according to the actual demand that exists for additional supply of windows. But the total ~~number~~ amount outstanding at any time need not exceed the maximum proposed above.

12. I request very early sanction to this proposal.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Sanitary Commissioner.

Sl: 602

No of Members to be present

1 President City M.C. Mysore

2 " " Mysore

3 " K.L.F. Lay Dr.

4 " D.H.O., Nanjangud 20

5 " " Kollegal 15

6 " " Tirumakudal 15

7 " " Hassan 14

8 " " Mysore 25

9 " " Kadur 16

10 " " Shimoga 15

11 " " Chitaldrug 15

Total 138

1389

(1c

GOVERNMENT OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

No. L. 3950-60 dated 10th January 1922
Agry 28-21-2

Memo.

The accompanying letter No.C.455 dated the 2nd December 1921 from the Sanitary Commissioner in Mysore is forwarded, with compliments, to the Presidents of Municipalities and District Boards for necessary action.

By Order,
C. VENKATA RAO,
Secretary to Government
Revenue Department.

Draft

Letter No. C. 455 dated 2nd December 1921 from the Sanitary Commissioner with the Government of Mysore.

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12. I request very early sanction to this proposal.

Memo no L. 4505/San dt 8-2-22

Copy to San Comrs with ref to his letter no. C. 455 dt 2-12-1921.

BQ

A602

Dec 7/2/22

For Revenue Secretary